WJLA/ABC-24/7 - FCC REPORT JAN- MARCH 2020

CRIME & VIOLENCE

1/1 - WJLA 8AM (:22)

THE CRIME PREVENTION INITIATIVE D.C. MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER LAUNCHED IN THE FALL ENDS TODAY. AND IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE.PATROLS WERE BEEFED UP IN SEVERAL HIGH-CRIME AREAS OF THE CITY. BETWEEN OCTOBER 14TH AND DECEMBER 10TH, TOTAL CRIME IN THE TARGETED AREAS WAS DOWN 19-PERCENT... COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD THE YEAR BEFORE. BUT OVERAL, DC'S MURDER RATE WAS STILL UP. 166 KILLED LAST YEAR ALONE.

1/14 - WJLA 5AM (:40)

SOME COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS HAVE A PLAN ON HOW TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST CRIME ALONG ALABAMA AVENUE IN SOUTHEAST D.C. THEY WANT IMPROVED LIGHTING ALONG A NEARLY THREE-MILE STRETCH OF THE ROAD. THEY SAY AT NIGHT, THAT AREA IS TOO DARK. AND THAT MAKES THINGS EASY FOR CRIMINALS. METRO RIDERS ARE ALSO PUSHING FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS NEAR THE CONGRESS HEIGHTS METRO STATION, ALONG ALABAMA AVENUE. TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS SAY THEY'VE RECENTLY MADE 71 LIGHTS THERE TWICE AS BRIGHT AS BEFORE. BUT ACTIVISTS SAY EVEN MORE LIGHT IS NEEDED.

1/24 - WJLA 5PM (:20)

ARLINGTON POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR A MAN WHO CARJACKED A DRIVER AT GUNPOINT IN PENTAGON CITY YESTERDAY. THE

CARJACKER GOT AWAY WITH A BLACK MERCEDES S-300 WITH MARYLAND LICENSE PLATE 4-D-F-8-0-5-3. THE GUNMAN APPROACHED THE VICTIM RIGHT AFTER HE'D PARKED -- THEN SHOWED HIS WEAPON AND DEMANDED THE KEYS. IF YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS INCIDENT, PLEASE CALL POLICE.

2/6 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:40)

AFTER A STRING OF ARMED ROBBERIES NEAR THE PENTAGON CITY MALL, YOU CAN SEE JUST HOW MANY OFFICERS ARE NOW FOCUSED ON THAT AREA. WE'RE TOLD THEY WERE ABLE TO QUICKLY RESPOND TO WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE AN *UNRELATED THEFT INVESTIGATION, SEEN IN THIS VIDEO. SINCE JANUARY 19TH, THERE HAVE BEEN ONE ARMED ROBBERY AND THREE ARMED CARJACKINGS IN THE AREA. THE MOST RECENT INCIDENT HAPPENED TUESDAY NIGHT... WHEN A WOMAN WAS CARJACKED ON SOUTH JOYCE STREET. MALL EMPLOYEES ARE URGED TO USE CAUTION ON THE WAY TO AND FROM THEIR CARS. AND THEY'RE GETTING SOME HELP. RIGHT NOW, POLICE DON'T HAVE ANY SURVEILLANCE IMAGES OF THE SUSPECTS. BUT THEY SAY TWO OF THE STOLEN CARS WERE FOUND IN D.C.

2/16 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:30)

NEW TONIGHT. A WOMAN IN ANNAPOLIS SAYS SHE MAY HAVE ESCAPED AN ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING... WHILE TRYING TO TAKE AN UBER! ACCORDING TO THE CAPITAL GAZETTE-- THE WOMAN GOT INTO A CAR.. THAT WAS DRIVEN BY A MAN WHO SHE *THOUGHT WAS AN UBER DRIVER. A SHORT TIME LATER.. THE DRIVER PULLED OVER-- AND THEY BOTH GOT OUT. THAT'S WHEN THE WOMAN SAYS THE MAN GRABBED HER ARM... BUT EVENTUALLY LET GO.. GOT BACK IN HIS CAR.. AND DROVE AWAY. POLICE ARE WORKING TO FIND OUT IF HE WAS IMPERSONATING AN UBER DRIVER.

2/23 - ABC7-24/7 5PM (:35)

HAPPENING NOW THE SEARCH IS ON FOR THE PERSON WHO KILLED TWO TEENAGE BOYS IN NORTHWEST WASHINGTON. 17-YEAR-OLD "WILFREDO TORRES" AND 16-YEAR-OLD "JAIME ZELAYA"--WERE SHOT AND KILLED LAST NIGHT. A WOMAN WAS ALSO SHOT--AND WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL. POLICE ON THE SCENE--CALLING FOR AN END TO THE VIOLENCE. POLICE SAY THIS SHOOTING DOES *NOT APPEAR TO BE RANDOM.

3/4 - WJLA 4AM (:40)

BALTIMORE'S HIGH CRIME RATE-- HAS MARYLAND STATE
LAWMAKERS-- CONSIDERING A BILL-- AIMED AT COMBATING IT. GO-P SENATE LEADERS INTRODUCED THE BILL. IT WOULD GIVE
GOVERNOR HOGAN-- THE POWER TO DECLARE A STATE OF
EMERGENCY-- WHEN THERE ARE MORE THAN 18 MURDERS-- IN
BALTIMORE... IN A MONTH. HE WOULD BE AUTHORIZED-- TO BRING
IN STATE LAW ENFORCMENT OFFICIALS-- TO FIGHT CRIME THERE.
GOVERNOR HOGAN'S OFFICE ISSUED A STATEMENT-- CALLING
BALTIMORE'S CRIME CRISIS-- "THE MOST URGENT ISSUE FACING
OUR STATE." THE STATEMENT WENT ON TO SAY-- "THE GOVERNOR
WILL CONSIDER ANY LEGISLATION-- THAT COMES TO HIS DESK."

3/11 - WILA 12PM (:20)

TODAY IN THE DISTRICT-- MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER IS TAKING A MAJOR STEP TOWARD STOPPING GUN VIOLENCE. BOWSER IS SIGNING EMERGENCY LEGISLATION THAT PROHIBITS THE POSSESSION, ASSEMBLY, SALE, AND PURCHASE OF GHOST GUNS. THOSE ARE GUNS THAT ARE ASSEMBLED FROM KITS AND HAVE NO SERIAL NUMBER. THIS YEAR-- D-C POLICE HAVE RECOVERED 38-GHOST GUNS. LAST YEAR 116- WERE RECOVERED-- AT LEAST THREE OF THEM ARE LINKED TO HOMICIDES.

3/24 - WJLA 4AM (:20)

SOME DIFFICULT NEWS TO REPORT-- AS WE GO THROUGH THESE HARD TIMES TOGETHER. WITH SO MANY PEOPLE STAYING AT HOME-- POLICE IN SOME COMMUNITIES ARE *ALREADY REPORTING AN INCREASE IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CALLS. IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY. THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE IS ALSO AVAILABLE 24-SEVEN. THE NUMBER IS 1-800-7-9-9-SAFE.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1/2 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:40)

THE D-C COUNCIL IS CONSIDERING ANTI-VAPING LEGISLATION THAT'S EVEN TOUGHER THAN THE STEPS JUST TAKEN BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. WA5 17680 THE F-D-A JUST BANNED FRUIT- AND MINT-FLAVORED E-CIGARETTES, IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP TEENS FROM VAPING. TODAY -- THE COUNCIL HEARD FROM WITNESSES WHO WANT TO BAN VAPING ALTOGETHER IN THE DISTRICT. OTHERS WANT TO BAN FLAVORED NICOTINE -- EVEN MENTHOL CIGARETTES. THE GOAL IS TO KEEP THOSE PRODUCTS AWAY FROM KIDS. BUT -- PEOPLE WHO SELL VAPING PRODUCTS SAY THEY'RE A SAFE WAY FOR ADULTS TO BREAK A TOBACCO HABIT. AND -- THEY SAY RECENT DEATHS LINKED TO VAPING WERE THE RESULTS OF PEOPLE PUTTING MARIJUANA IN E-CIGARETTES.

1/13-ABC7-24/7 10PM (1:00)

THIS WAS THE SCENE OUTSIDE THE VIRGINIA CAPITOL TODAY. PEOPLE WAITED IN LINES TO GO THROUGH SECURITY AFTER DEMOCRATS BANNED GUNS IN THE STATEHOUSE. MANY OF THOSE IN LINE WERE GUN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS -- PROTESTING GUN CONTROL MEASURES NOW MOVING THROUGH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. TODAY -- THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ADVANCED FOUR GUN CONTROL BILLS TO THE FULL SENATE. THE LEGISLATION INCLUDES MANDATORY, UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR *ALL GUN PURCHASES -- THE CREATION OF A "RED FLAG" LAW -- AND THE RESTORATION OF VIRGINIA'S ONE HANDGUN PER MONTH PURCHASE LAW.

1/29-- ABC7-24/7 6PM (:35)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND-- ALSO TRYING TO INCREASE SAFETY ON THE STREETS. THE COUNCIL LAYING OUT ITS 'VISION ZERO' AGENDA. THE GOAL IS TO ELIMINATE ALL TRAFFIC-RELATED DEATHS BY THE YEAR 20-30. MONTGOMERY COUNTY WILL HOST A "VISION ZERO TOWN HALL"...

IT'S ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH AT WHEATON HIGH SCHOOL. THE MEETING STARTS AT TWO. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ARE WELCOME.

2/4 - WJLA -4PM (:20)

EMERGENCY LEGISLATION TO SAVE WASHINGTON METROPOLITIAN HIGH SCHOOL FAILED BY ONE VOTE IN THE D-C COUNCIL. THE SCHOOL -- WHICH CATERS TO MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO STRUGGLE IN TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS -- IS SET TO CLOSE LATER THIS YEAR. A-B-C SEVEN SPOKE WITH STUDENTS AFTER TODAY'S VOTE WHO SAY THEY ARE UNSURE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

2/11 - WJLA 6PM (:35)

HAPPENING RIGHT NOW POTENTIALLY HISTORIC LEGISLATION IS MOVING FORWARD - AS VIRGINIA LAWMAKERS RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK. THE FRANTIC PACE OF VOTING - IS BECAUSE TODAY IS CROSSOVER DAY. ANY BILL THAT DOESN'T PASS ONE CHAMBER BY MIDNIGHT - IS DEAD UNTIL NEXT YEAR. ALREADY TODAY WE'VE SEEN THE HOUSE APPROVE A BAN ON *NEW* ASSAULT WEAPONS IN VIRGINIA. THAT BILL INCLUDES A BAN ON HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES. THE SENATE - ALSO APPROVED A MODIFIED DRIVERS LICENSE THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. LEGISLATION ALLOWING COMMUNITIES TO *REMOVE* CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS... IS ALSO MOVING FORWARD.

2/20 - WJLA 6AM (:40)

D-C COUNCILMEMBERS ARE DEMANDING ANSWERS... ABOUT A G AS WE REPORTED LAST WEEK.. OFFICERS COULD TRY TO WIN A CONTEST BY MAKING ARRESTS AND ISSUING TICKETS. AT A D.C. COUNCIL HEARING LAST NIGHT, FOUR FORMER OFFICERS ALLEGED, THE GAME WAS PART OF A LARGER PROBLEM: A QUOTA SYSTEM. THEY SAID OFFICERS WHO DIDN'T

ARREST ENOUGH PEOPLE OR WRITE ENOUGH TICKETS FACED RETALIATION. THE METRO TRANSIT POLICE CHIEF DENIED THERE WAS RETALIATION... BUT DID NOT EXPLICITLY DENY THERE'S A QUOTA SYSTEM.

3/3 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:23)

SHOULD PEOPLE WHO WALK AND BIKE TO WORK GET THE SAME SUBSIDIES AS THOSE WHO DRIVE OR TAKE METRO? THAT'S THE QUESTION THE D-C COUNCIL WILL BE CONSIDERING TODAY. A BILL WOULD REQUIRE EMPLOYERS WHO SUBSIDIZE PARKING TO GIVE THAT SAME SUBSIDY TO WALKERS AND CYCLISTS. THE GOAL IS TO TRY AND CUT DOWN ON CONGESTION. RIGHT NOW -- JUST 34 PERCENT OF D-C RESIDENTS DRIVE TO WORK. THE REST TAKE MASS TRANSIT, WALK OR BIKE.

3/11 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:20)

TODAY IN THE DISTRICT-- MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER IS TAKING A MAJOR STEP TOWARD STOPPING GUN VIOLENCE. BOWSER IS SIGNING EMERGENCY LEGISLATION THAT PROHIBITS THE POSSESSION, ASSEMBLY, SALE, AND PURCHASE OF GHOST GUNS. THOSE ARE GUNS THAT ARE ASSEMBLED FROM KITS AND HAVE NO SERIAL NUMBER. THIS YEAR-- D-C POLICE HAVE RECOVERED 38-GHOST GUNS. LAST YEAR 116- WERE RECOVERED-- AT LEAST THREE OF THEM ARE LINKED TO HOMICIDES.

3/28 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:15)

THIS MORNING-- MAYOR BOWSER IS MOURNING THE LOSS OF ONE OF HER EMPLOYEES DUE TO THE VIRUS. SHE SAYS ATTORNEY GEORGE VALENTINE DIED FRIDAY MORNING. VALENTINE SERVED AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF BOWSER'S OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNCIL. THE MAYOR DESCRIBED HIM AS A LONGTIME PUBLIC SERVANT AND SAYS EVERYONE IN HER OFFICE IS "DEVASTATED."

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

1/3- WJLA 5PM (:20)

DOZENS OF PEOPLE ARE NOW OUT OF THEIR HOMES AFTER THIS APARTMENT FIRE IN LAUREL. THE FIRE BROKE OUT OVERNIGHT IN THE 91-HUNDRED BLOCK OF SCOTT ADAM COURT.FIREFIGHTERS RESCUED SEVEN PEOPLE WHO WERE TRAPPED ON THEIR BALCONIES.INVESTIGATORS ARE WORKING TO FIND OUT WHAT SPARKED THE FIRE.

1/13- WJLA 5PM (:25)

7 ON YOUR SIDE IS TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE HOMELESS ISSUE IN THE D-M-V. EVERY JANUARY A CENSUS IS DONE TO FIND OUT HOW MANY HOMELESS LIVE IN OUR COMMUNITIES.LAST YEAR THAT COUNT FOUND MORE THAN 9-THOUSAND HOMELESS PEOPLE.THAT'S DOWN MORE THAN 600 FROM THE YEAR BEFORE.MORE THAN 6-THOUSAND HOMELESS LIVE IN THE DISTRICT. MOST STAY IN EMERGENCY SHELTERSOR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FACITILITIES AT NIGHT. ABOUT 600 CHOSE TO STAY ON THE STREETS.

1/22- WJLA 11PM (:40)

NEW AT ELEVEN, AN EFFORT TO GET A HANDLE ON HOMELESSNESS IN THE DISTRICT -- AND RAISE AWARENESS OF THE ISSUE. THE CITY'S ANNUAL "POINT IN TIME" COUNT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS IN THE CITY IS UNDERWAY RIGHT NOW. VOLUNTEERS ARE HELPING TO MAKE THOSE FOLKS AWARE OF RESOURCES THAT CAN HELP THEM FIND A PLACE TO LIVE. THE ANNUAL SURVEY PROVIDES INFORMATION ON THE SIZE AND SCOPE OF D-C'S HOMELESS POPULATION -- AND HELPS OFFICIALS TAILOR SERVICES TO THOSE IN NEED. LAST YEAR'S COUNT

SHOWED A 45-PERCENT DECREASE IN FAMILY HOMELESSNESS SINCE 20-16.

2/13 - ABC8-24/7 8AM (:22)

IT LOOKS LIKE VIRGINIA WILL SOON FOLLOW D.C.'S LEAD IN CRACKING DOWN ON HOUSING DISCRIMINATION. D.C. LANDLORDS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ASK PROSPECTIVE TENANTS IF THEY RECEIVE FEDERAL HOUSING VOUCHERS.THEY'RE AVAILABLE TO RENTERS WHO NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. IN VIRGINIA, THERE'S NO SUCH LAW. BUT LEGISLATION TO BAN LANDLORDS FROM DISCRIMINATING ON THE BASIS OF INCOME IS NOW ADVANCING IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

2/27 ABC7-24/7 8AM (:25)

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE-- TRACKING A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD INCREASE TAXES IN FAIRFAX COUNTY. THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S BUDGET PROPOSAL RELEASED LAST NIGHT - INLCUDES A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. THAT WOULD ADD NEARLY 350-DOLLARS TO THE AVERAGE HOMEOWNER'S TAX BILL EVERY YEAR. IT WOULD ALSO ADD A FOUR-PERCENT TAX ON ENTERTAINMENT.THAT'S THINGS LIKE MOVIE THEATER AND CONCERT TICKETS. FUNDS FROM THOSE INCREASES - WOULD GO TO SCHOOLS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

3/9 - WJLA 4AM (:40)

A SOUP KITCHEN IN NORTHWEST WASHINGTON — IS MAKING EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE HOMELESS FROM CORONAVIRUS. THE "FOURTH STREET SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH" IS COLLECTING DONATIONS OF HAND SANITIZER AND DISINFECTING WIPES-- AND THEY'RE LOOKING FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SOUP KITCHEN. VOLUNTEERS ARE CLEANING THOROUGHLY BETWEEN MEALTIMES-- TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE

VIRUS. VOLUNTEERS SAY -- MANY OF THOSE WHO USE THE KITCHEN ARE OLDER AND HAVE COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEMS.

3/17- WJLA 5PM (:20)

SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE.. GETTING RESULTS FOR A LOCAL HOMELESS MAN. YESTERDAY A-B-C7'S SAM FORD SPOKE WITH THE MAN WHO WAS AWAITING HIS CORONAVIRUS TEST RESULTS. AFTER SAM ASKED MAYOR BOWSER ABOUT WHERE THE MAN SHOULD GO... THE CITY GOT BACK TO US-- AND SAID THEY WERE SENDING A VAN TO PICK HIM UP. WE'RE TOLD HE NOW HAS A SAFE PLACE TO SELF-QUARANTINE.. WHILE HE WAITS FOR THOSE RESULTS.

3/24 - WJLA 6AM (:20)

SOME GOOD NEWS IF YOU'RE A RENTER DEALING WITH THE VIRUS OUTBREAK.. THE FEDERAL AGENCY THAT OVERSEES MORTGAGES ON RENTAL PROPERTIES IS LOOKING OUT FOR YOU.IT'S OFFERING LANDLORDS AN INCENTIVE.IF YOUR LANDLORD PLEDGES NOT TO EVICT RENTERS STRUGGLING WITH PAYMENTS-- THEY WON'T BE PENALIZED FOR THEIR OWN LATE MORTGAGE PAYMENTS.

HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE

1/1 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:25)

A BREAKTHROUGH FOR PANCREATIC CANCER PATIENTS. THE FDA HAS APPROVED A NEW DRUG. DOCTORS FOUND A MEDICINE -- WHICH IS USED RIGHT NOW TO TREAT OVARIAN AND BREAST CANCER... HELPED *MAINTAIN THE SIZE OF TUMORS IN PANCREATIC CANCER PATIENTS. THE TUMORS DIDN'T GROW AFTER 16-WEEKS OF CHEMOTHERAPY. PANCREATIC CANCER HAS ONE OF THE HIGHEST DEATH RATES -- SINCE IT'S USUALLY NOT DISCOVERED UNTIL IT'S IN ADVANCED STAGES.

1/13 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:40)

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH A NEW HEALTH ALERT ABOUT THE FLU. A FOUR-YEAR-OLD GIRL IS RECOVERING-- AFTER NEARLY DYING FROM FLU-RELATED COMPLICATIONS. BUT THE LITTLE GIRL ... NAMED JADE... HAS YET TO REGAIN HER SIGHT. AND WHILE DOCTORS ARE HOPEFUL IT MAY HAPPEN -- HER PARENTS ARE BRACING FOR A NEW REALITY AFTER NEARLY TWO-WEEKS IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT. IN THIS CASE, THE FLU CAUSED AN EXTREMELY RARE VIRAL INFECTION THAT IMPACTED THE PART OF THE BRAIN THAT CONTROLS SIGHT. DOCTORS SAY IF JADE DOESN'T REGAIN HER VISION IN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS -- SHE LIKELY NEVER WILL. JADE DID *NOT GET A FLU SHOT THIS YEAR.

1/20 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:23)

SEVEN IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH HEALTH MATTERS. AND A NEW STUDY FINDS DRUGS USED TO TREAT THINGS LIKE DIABETES AND ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE MAY *ALSO FIGHT CANCER. RESEARCHERS TESTED THOUSANDS OF DRUGS. THEY SAY 49 DRUGS SELECTIVELY KILLED CANCER CELLS -- MORE THAN A HUNDRED DRUGS SHOWED PROMISE! THE TESTS WERE CONDUCTED ON THE CELLULAR LEVEL -- SO MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED TO DETERMINE THE DRUGS' EFFECTIVENESS IN CANCER PATIENTS.

2/1- WJLA 11PM (:26)

AND BEGINNING TOMORROW... U-S CITIZENS WHO HAVE TRAVELED TO WUHAN, CHINA IN THE LAST FOURTEEN DAYS -- WILL BE SUBJECT TO *MANDATORY QUARANTINES. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT HAS HAPPENED IN 50 YEARS... HERE ARE THE LATEST NUMBERS FOR THE CORONAVIRUS IN *THIS AREA. THERE ARE TWO *POTENTIAL CASES OF THE VIRUS IN VIRGINIA. DC HEALTH IS ALSO MONITORING FOUR PATIENTS -- BUT THERE ARE NO CONFIRMED CASES. AND THERE ARE NO CASES IN MARYLAND -- BUT ONE PERSON IS BEING MONITORED.

2/11- WJLA 11PM (:40)

7 IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH A HEALTH ALERT...THE FIRST PEDIATRIC FLU DEATH IN VIRGINIA CONFIRMED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.A NORTHERN VIRGINIA MOTHER BELIEVES THAT CASE IS HER 16 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER-- BUT HEALTH OFFICIALS WOULDN'T EVEN CONFIRM THAT TO HER.SO FAR VIRGINIA HAS REPORTED MORE THAN 51-HUNDRED INFECTIONS THIS FLU SEASON...NEARLY 63-PERCENT OF THEM WERE INFLUENZA 'B'. AND 7 IS ON YOUR SIDE WITH AN ALERT ABOUT HOW QUICKLY THE FLU CAN SPREAD. YOU ARE CONTAGIOUS A *FULL DAY* BEFORE SYMPTOMS DEVELOP... THAT MEANS YOU CAN SPREAD IT BEFORE YOU EVEN KNOW IT'S HIT YOU. IF YOU ARE SICK... COVERING YOUR MOUTH WHEN YOU SNEEZE OR COUGH SIMPLY ISN'T ENOUGH. JUST TALKING CAN SPREAD IT. PEOPLE WITH THE FLU CAN SPREAD IT TO OTHERS UP TO 6 FEET AWAY!

2/20- WJLA 5PM (:20)

DOCTORS ARE WARNING THAT A SECOND WAVE OF THE FLU COULD SOON HIT THE U-S. THIS HAS BEEN AN ESPECIALLY BAD

FLU SEASON FOR CHILDEN. NATIONWIDE, AT LEAST 92 CHILDREN HAVE DIED OF THE FLU. THEY INCLUDE A 16-YEAR-OLD NORTHERN VIRGINIA GIRL AND NOW POSSIBLY AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD FROM CALVERT COUNTY. PARENTS SHOULD WATCH FOR FATIGUE... DIFFICULTY BREATHING... OR A FEVER THAT CAN'T BE CONTROLLED WITH MEDICATION.

3/2 - ABC7-24/7 10PM (:20)

SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE HAS LEARNED THAT THE C-D-C IS COMMUNICATING WITH LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS. THE GUIDANCE INCLUDES DEDICATING EMPLOYEES-- TO CARE FOR CORONAVIRUS PATIENTS AND PROVIDE INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING. WE'VE REACHED OUT TO HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN MARYLAND... DC AND VIRGINIA AND THEY ARE ALL WORKING CLOSELY WITH LOCAL FACILITIES TO ADDRESS THE VIRUS.

3/11 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:20)

TO A HEALTH ALERT FROM THE C-D-C A FRESH MUSHROOM IS NOW BEING LINKED TO A DEADLY LISTERIA OUTBREAK. ENOKI MUSHROOMS ARE BEING RECALLED DUE TO LISTERIA CONTAMINATION. THEY HAVE LONG STEMS, SMALL CAPS, AND ARE COMMON IS ASIAN COOKING. SO FAR--FOUR PEOPLE HAVE DIED AND AT LEAST 30 HOSPITALIZED. THERE HAVE BEEN THREE ILLNESSES REPORTED IN BOTH VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND.

3/28 - ABC7-24/7 4PM (:20)

NEW TONIGHT-- THE F-D-A HAS APPROVED A CORONAVIRUS TEST THAT CAN PROVIDE RESULTS IN LESS THAN 15 MINUTES. HEALTH OFFICIALS AUTHORIZED THE TEST FOR EMERGENCY USE... THE COMPANY THAT MAKES THE TEST-- SAYS IT EXPECTS TO DELIVER 50-THOUSAND TESTS PER DAY BEGINNING NEXT WEEK. RIGHT NOW-- IT CAN TAKE SEVERAL DAYS TO GET RESULTS FROM MOST CORONAVIRUS LAB TESTS.

1/1 - WJLA 5AM (:25)

A NEW REPORT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY SAYS THE COUNTY'S EFFORTS TO CLOSE THE STUDENT AHIEVEMENT GAP—ARE NOT WORKING. THE COUNTY REPORT FOUND LESS THAN HALF THE DISTRICT'S BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS MET "SCHOOL READINESS "BENCHMARKS. MOST ALSO ATTEND SCHOOLS THAT LACK RESOURCES. THE REPORT ALSO FOUND THAT HIGHER POVERTY SCHOOLS... ALSO HAD LOWER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE. THE COUNTY IS CURRENTLY STUDYING SCHOOL BOUNDARIES IN PART TO CREATE MORE ECONOMIC AND RACIAL DIVERSITY.

1/15- WJLA 12PM (:25)

ALSO HAPPENING TODAY IN RICHMOND --THE VIRGINIA HOUSE IS SET TO VOTE ON THE "EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT." IT'S DESIGNED TO GUARANTEE EQUAL LEGAL RIGHTS FOR ALL AMERICANS REGARDLESS OF SEX.THE AMENDMENT PASSED THE SENATE YESTERDAY.AND - IF IT PASSES THE HOUSE - VIRGINIA WOULD BE THE 38TH STATE TO RATIFY THE E-R-A.THAT IS THE NUMBER NEEDED TO ADD IT TO THE U-S CONSTITUTION --BUT, THE CONGRESSIONALLY-IMPOSED DEADLINE FOR RATIFICATION EXPIRED DECADES AGO.

1/30 - WJLA 6AM (:30)

VIRGINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL MARK HERRING SAYS HE'LL FILE A CIVIL RIGHTS LAWSUIT ON THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT. ON MONDAY, VIRGINIA BECAME THE CRITICAL 38TH STATE TO RATIFY THE MEASURE. THE E-R-A WOULD BAN DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX. BUT THERE ARE BIG LEGAL QUESTIONS AS TO

WHETHER VIRGINIA'S RATIFICATION STANDS. HERRING SAYS HE'S PARTNERING WITH DEMOCRATIC ATTORNEYS GENERAL FROM ILLINOIS AND NEVADA... TO GET THE AMENDMENT ADOPTED. HE'LL RELEASE MORE DETAILS AT A NEWS CONFERENCE THIS MORNING.

2/7 -ABC7-24/7 7AM (:20)

AT THE STATE LEVEL... "LEE JACKSON DAY" COULD SOON BE NO MORE. THE CONTROVERSIAL VIRGINIA HOLIDAY HONORS CONFEDERATE GENERALS ROBERT E. LEE AND 'STONEWALL' JACKSON. THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES JUST APPROVED LEGISLATION THAT WOULD *END* THAT TRADITION AND *REPLACE* IT WITH A STATE HOLIDAY ON *ELECTION DAY. * THE STATE SENATE APPROVED A SIMILAR BILL-- SO IT'S LIKELY TO REACH THE GOVERNOR.

2/10 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:25)

ONE OF LAST NIGHT'S ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS-- USED THEIR ACCEPTANCE SPEECH-- TO GIVE A SHOUT-OUT TO A NEW, LOCAL LAW. MATTHEW CHERRY AND KAREN TOLIVER WON BEST ANIMATED SHORT FILM FOR "HAIR LOVE..." WHICH TELLS THE STORY OF A BLACK FATHER LEARNING HOW TO MANAGE HIS DAUGHTER'S CURLY HAIR. IN HIS SPEECH-- CHERRY MENTIONED THE "CROWN ACT"-- WHICH ENDS DISCRIMINATION BASED ON NATURAL HAIR. MONTGOMERY COUNTY WAS THE FIRST LOCAL COMMUNITY TO PASS IT, LAST YEAR.

2/28 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:20)

CONFEDERATE-RELATED MATERIAL MUST NOW BE REMOVED FROM ALL MARINE INSTALLATIONS. THE NEW ORDER COMES FROM THE HIGHEST-RANKING OFFICER-- COMMANDANT GENERAL

DAVID BERGER. ON TWITTER, HE SAID HE ALSO WANTS TO REVISE THE PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY TO *INCLUDE SAME SEX COUPLES-AND A POSSIBLE *YEARLONG MATERNITY LEAVE. BERGER'S SPOKESPERSON SAYS WHILE THERE IS NOT A LOT OF CONFEDERATE PARAPHERNALIA REMAINING ON INSTALLATIONS-IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.

3/6 - WJLA – 4AM (:30)

AND IN MARYLAND-- MONTGOMERY COUNTY BECAME THE FIRST *LOCAL* GOVERNMENT TO PASS THE CROWN ACT. ABC7 HAS BEEN REPORTING ON THE EFFORTS TO TAKE THIS ACT STATEWIDE. A STATEWIDE MEASURE ... SPONSORED BY SENATOR WILL SMITH ... IS CURRENTLY IN COMMITTEE. SUPPORTERS SAY DISCRIMINATION HAS DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTED AFRICAN AMERICANS WEARING BRAIDS, DREADLOCKS AND OTHER NATURAL STYLES.

3/19 -WJLA – 4AM (:55)

THIS NEWS COMES AFTER VIRGINIA ANNOUNCED TWO DEATHS IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COMMONWEALTH LAST WEEK.

HERE'S WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THIS CASE.T HE PATIENT WAS A PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY RESIDENT IN HIS SIXTIES-- WHO SUFFERED FROM AN UNDERLYING MEDICAL CONDITION. IN A STATEMENT-- GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN URGES EVERYONE TO PRAY FOR EACH OTHER, THE STATE AND THE NATION. THIS MORNING-- THE GOVERNOR PLANS TO ANNOUNCE EVEN MORE ACTIONS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS. GOVERNOR HOGAN ALSO ADMITS THE STATE DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH TESTS-- AND HE'S WORKING TO FIX THAT PROBLEM. HE'S SET TO ANNOUNCE THE NEW ACTIONS AT TEN THIS MORNING.WE WILL STREAM IT LIVE-- ON WILA DOT COM.

3/26 - WJLA - 6AM (:25)

THERE WAS A BIG DONATION FROM THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL. IT'S SENDING 5-THOUSAND RESPIRATORS TO GEORGETOWN AND CHILDREN'S NATIONAL HOSPITALS. THE FACE MASKS HAVE BEEN SITTING IN STORAGE. THEY'RE LEFTOVER FROM THE SARS OUTBREAK 10 YEARS AGO AND WERE APPARENTLY FORGOTTEN. IN ADDITION TO SENDING THOSE MASKS TO HOSPITALS. THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL IS ALSO TEAMING UP WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS TO HOST A BLOOD DRIVE. THAT'S HAPPENING TOMORROW.

EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY

1/22 - ABC7-24/7-7AM (:20)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ... IS ALSO SEEING AN ECONOMIC BOOST. THANKS TO DEVELOPMENTS LIKE THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND HOSPITAL IN LARGO ...PRINCE GEORGE'S HAS NOW PASSED MONTGOMERY COUNTY IN JOB CREATION. ACCORDING TO DATA FROM GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY ... 21 *THOUSAND NEW JOBS WERE CREATED IN THE COUNTY BETWEEN 2013 AND 2018.

1/24 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:20)

AND IN RESTON -- A TECH COMPANY PLANS TO CREATE NEARLY 150 JOBS BY EXPANDING ITS HEADQUARTERS. "MACEDON (mass-uh-dawn) TECHNOLOGIES" WILL SPEND 1-POINT-65 MILLION DOLLARS ON THE PROJECT -- WHICH WILL DOUBLE ITS WORKFORCE HERE. THEY CONSIDERED OTHER SITES AROUND THE COUNTRY BEFORE CHOOSING RESTON FOR THIS PROJECT.

1/29 -ABC-24/7 10PM (:20)

SAFEWAY IS PUTTING 500 PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY JOBS ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK, TELLING ABC 7 IT'S CLOSING THE COLLINGTON DISTRIBUTION CENTER. SAFEWAY'S PARENT-COMPANY "ALBERTSONS" SAYS DISTRIBUTION FOR ITS 275 MID-ATLANTIC LOCATIONS WILL MOVE FROM THE CRAIN HIGHWAY LOCATION TO PENNSYLVANIA. "ALBERTSONS" SAYS IT WILL WORK TO HELP FIND WORK FOR EMPLOYEES WHO WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS.

2/5- WJLA 5AM (:25)

VOTERS IN VIRGINIA COULD DECIDE-- WHETHER TO BRING CASINOS TO THE COMMONWEALTH. LAWMAKERS IN RICHMOND LATE YESTERDAY ADVANCED LEGISLATION-- THAT WOULD LEGALIZE CASINOS IN FIVE

CITIES-- *IF APPROVED IN A REFERENDUM VOTE. BACKERS OF THE LEGISLATION SAY-- IT'LL BE GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY AND CREATE JOBS.. BUT CONSERVATIVE GROUPS THAT OPPOSE GAMING IN VIRGINIA SAY-- CASINOS BENEFIT DEVELOPERS AND GAMING COMPANIES-- WHILE HURTING THE POOR.

2/26 - WILA 6AM (:25)

AND A NEW STUDY SUGGESTS LIMITING METRO'S LATE-NIGHT SERVICE -- IS NOW HURTING D.C.'S ECONOMY. ACCORDING THE WASHINGTON POST-MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER COMMISSIONED THE STUDY IN HOPES OF RESTORING THE HOURS THAT WERE CUT BACK IN 2016. AS WE'VE REPORTED OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS -- THAT STUDY CONFIRMED BUSINESSES ARE LOSING MONEY WITH THE EARLIER CLOSING. AND LATENIGHT WORKERS - STRUGGLE WITH TRANSPORTATION OR PARKING.

2/27 - WJLA 11PM (:20)

A MARYLAND COMPANY IS LOOKING FOR TOP RECRUITS -- TO HELP IT EXPLORE THE ICY DEPTHS."OCEANEERING INTERNATIONAL" PLANS TO EXPAND ITS ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FACILTY...AND IS LOOKING TO HIRE MORE THAN 135-PEOPLE.THE ENGINEERING COMPANY DESIGNS AND BUILDS EQUIPMENT FOR DEEP SEA AND OCEAN FLOOR EXPLORATION.

3/2 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:25)

A D.C. COUNCILMEMBER WANTS TO MAKE METRO FREE FOR EVERYONE WHO LIVES IN THE DISTRICT. COUNCILMAN CHARLES ALLEN SAYS HIS PLAN WOULD BOOST THE REGION'S ECONOMY, AND HELP LOW-INCOME PEOPLE. SEVEN COUNCILMEMBERS ARE CO-INTRODUCING THE LEGISLATION. UNDER THE PLAN, 100 DOLLARS A MONTH WOULD GO ON EACH PERSON'S SMARTRIP CARD. ALLEN SAYS THE PROGRAM WOULD BE PAID FOR THROUGH SURPLUS TAXES THE CITY HAS BEEN COLLECTING.

3/11 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:40)

IN THE DISTRICT-- FEAR OF THE CORONAVIRUS SPREADING IS TAKING A MAJOR HIT ON THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY. DESTINATION D-C-- ESTIMATES TWO LARGE CONFERENCES THAT WERE CANCELLED BY THE SOFTWARE COMPANY "SASS" AND I-M-F BANK...WILL COST THE DISTRICT AT LEAST 10-MILLION DOLLARS. THE UNION REPRESENTING HOTEL AND RESTAURANT WORKERS SAY PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO WORRY ABOUT LOSING THEIR JOBS. MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER SAYS THE CITY IS STILL ASSESSING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT AS A RESULT OF REDUCED TRAVEL TO THE CITY-- WHICH INCLUDES AMTRAK ACELA TRAINS FROM D-C TO NEW YORK CITY UNTIL MAY 26TH.

3/25 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:40)

MANY PEOPLE FILING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT IN D.C. ARE EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS. AND NOT GETTING THROUGH WHEN THEY CALL IS JUST ONE OF THEM. CAITLIN SCHIAVONI'S (SKI'-UH-VON'-EE'S) HUSBAND WAS RECENTLY LAID OFF AS A BARTENDER WHEN THE BUSINESS CLOSED. HE'S TRIED FILING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ONLINE, BUT HE KEEPS GETTING ERROR MESSAGES. OFFICIALS SAY THAT'S BECAUSE THE WEBSITE HASN'T BEEN UPDATED TO REFLECT NEW LEGISLATION THAT WAIVED THE "WORK SEARCH REQUIREMENT" QUESTION.

EDUCATION

1/1- WJLA 5AM (:25)

A NEW REPORT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY SAYS THE COUNTY'S EFFORTS TO CLOSE THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GAP-- ARE NOT WORKING. THE COUNTY REPORT FOUND LESS THAN HALF THE DISTRICT'S BLACK AND LATINO STUDENTS MET "SCHOOL READINESS" BENCHMARKS. MOST ALSO ATTEND SCHOOLS THAT LACK RESOURCES. THE REPORT ALSO FOUND THAT HIGHER POVERTY SCHOOLS ... ALSO HAD LOWER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE. THE COUNTY IS CURRENTLY STUDYING SCHOOL BOUNDARIES IN PART TO CREATE MORE ECONOMIC AND RACIAL DIVERSITY.

1/20- WJLA 6AM (:20)

CLASSES IN RICHMOND WILL BE CANCELLED NEXT MONDAY -BECAUSE SO MANY TEACHERS WANT TO RALLY FOR INCREASED
SCHOOL FUNDING. THE DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT SAYS --NEARLY *700 OF THE DISTRICT'S SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE TAKING
PERSONAL LEAVE. AND, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SECURE
ENOUGH SUBSTITUTES. TEACHERS ARE PLANING TO RALLY AT THE
STATE CAPITOL. GOVERNOR RALPH NORTHAM PROPOSED
INCREASED EDUCATION SPENDING IN HIS BUDGET -- BUT THE
VIRGINIA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SAYS ITS FALLS SHORT.

1/24- WJLA 6AM (:60)

STUDENTS AND STAFF MEMBERS AT WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR FUTURE -- AFTER FINDING OUT THE SCHOOL IS CLOSING. STUDENTS WALKED OUT OF CLASS YESTERDAY AFTER THEY HEARD THE SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL

YEAR. D.C.'S SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR SAYS IT'S BECAUSE OF "LIMITED PROGRESS" THERE. "WASHINGTON MET" IS ONE OF THE CITY'S "OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS" PROVIDING UNIQUE SERVICES TO STUDENTS WHO HAVEN'T BEEN SUCCESSFUL AT TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS. TEACHERS HAVE "NOT" BEEN GUARANTEED JOBS WITH THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AFTER JUNE. THE SCHOOL SYSTEM SAYS IT WILL HOST THREE HIRING FAIRS FOR TEACHERS AFTER THE SCHOOL CLOSES. IT ALSO PLANS TO TAILOR A TRANSITION PLAN FOR EACH STUDENT. A FEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS PLAN TO QUESTION THE DECISION TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL AT AN UPCOMING OVERSIGHT HEARING.

2/12 - ABC7-24/7 - 7AM (:50)

COMMUNITY LEADERS ARE FIGHTING TO KEEP D.C.'S ONLY PUBLIC ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL IN WARD EIGHT FROM MOVING. EXCEL ACADEMY IS ESSENTIALLY BORROWING SPACE IN A CHARTER SCHOOL BUILDING... ON M-L-K JUNIOR AVENUE. AND ITS LEASE RUNS ONLY THROUGH THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. THE SCHOOL IS NEAR SEVERAL BUS STOPS AND THE ANACOSTIA METRO STATION. MANY PARENTS ARE CONCERNED THE SCHOOL WILL BE MOVED TO AN AREA NOT CONVENIENT FOR FAMILIES.

2/18 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:20)

MARYLAND WILL SOON HAVE A NEW WATCHDOG OVERSEEING EDUCATION SPENDING. GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN NAMED "RICHARD HENRY"-- THE STATE'S FIRST "EDUCATION INSPECTOR GENERAL." HENRY SPENT 25 YEARS IN THE U-S MARSHAL'S SERVICE. HE WILL WATCH FOR CORRUPTION AND MISMANAGEMENT-- BY MARYLAND'S TWO DOZEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

2/24 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:20)

ACCORDING TO A NEW SURVEY, MOST MARYLAND RESIDENTS STRONGLY SUPPORT MANY OF THE EDUCATION PROPOSALS THE KIRWAN

COMMISSION RECOMMENDS. THEY INCLUDE INCREASING TEACHER SALARIES AND EDUCATION FUNDING. BUT, MARYLANDERS ARE LESS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RAISING TAXES TO PAY FOR THE EDUCATION OVERHAUL. ROUGHLY HALF BELIEVE THEY ALREADY PAY TAXES THAT ARE "TOO HIGH." GOUCHER COLLEGE CONDUCTED THE SURVEY.

3/3 - WILA 11AM (:45)

WE'RE ON YOUR SIDE-- WITH THE LATEST ON THE KIRWAN PLAN. THIS IS A 32-BILLION-DOLLAR PROPOSAL TO OVERAHUL EDUCATION IN MARYLAND. YESTERDAY -- LAWMAKERS HELD THEIR FIRST HEARING ON A BILL TO HELP PAY FOR THE PLAN. THAT BILL WOULD EXPAND SALES TAX ON SOME SERVICES. MANY REAL ESTATE AGENTS OPPOSE THE TAX-- AND PROTESTED OUTSIDE THE STATEHOUSE IN ANNAPOLIS. IT'S ESTIMATED THAT MONEY RAISED BY THE "KIRWAN" TAX HIKE WOULD INCREASE STATEWIDE EDUCATION FUNDING BY MORE THAN FOUR BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.

3/13- WJLA 11PM (:20)

ITS NOT JUST GRADE SCHOOLS ... BUT EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS IMPACTED BY CORONAVIRUS. WE WERE THERE AS UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND STUDENTS PACKED UP TO MOVE OUT. LIKE DOZENS OF OTHER COLLEGES ... SPRING BREAK HAS BEEN EXTENDED---AND WHEN CLASSES RETURN ... THEY'LL BE ALL ONLINE. WE HAVE THE UPDATED LIST AND GUIDANCE FROM SCHOOL LEADERS AT WJLA DOT COM.

3/24 - WJLA 4AM (:45)

TODAY-- WE'RE EXPECTING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VIRGINIA'S PLANS TO KEEP SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR THE REST OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR-- AND THIS IS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH'S

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. RIGHT NOW-HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS ARE
PREPARING FOR ONLINE LEARNING.A TEACHER WE SPOKE WITH
WHO'S A MOTHER OF THREE BOYS SAYS SHE'S TRYING TO REMAIN
OPTIMISTIC. VIRGINIA OFFICIALS ARE WORKING TO OBTAIN A
FEDERAL WAIVER FOR STANDARDIZED TESTING REQUIREMENTS.
AND THAT WOULD ENSURE THAT STUDENTS WHO WERE
SUPPOSED TO GRADUATE THIS YEAR STILL CAN.VIRGINIA IS JUST
THE SECOND STATE TO ANNOUNCE Its CLOSING SCHOOLS FOR
THE REST OF THE SCHOOL YEAR. KANSAS WAS THE FIRST.

FAMILY ISSUES

1/9 - ABC7-24/7 7PM (:35)

HAPPENING RIGHT NOW -- ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE UPDATING FAMILIES ABOUT A CONTROVERSIAL RE-ASSIGNMENT PLAN.SEVEN ON YOUR SIDE HAS BEEN COVERING THE CONTROVERSY FOR WEEKS. THE CONCERN IS THAT *THOUSANDS OF KIDS COULD BE SHUFFLED AROUND TO DIFFERENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. BUT THE DISTRICT SAYS CHANGES ARE NEEDED TO EASE OVERCROWDING IN CLASSROOMS.REVEAL 4 BULLETS ALL UP AT ONCE DURING THE MEETING -- THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL HEAR FINAL REVISIONS TO THE PROPOSAL -- PLUS THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION. AFTER THAT, A BOARD VOTE IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 6TH. WE WILL HAVE THE LATEST TONIGHT AT 10 AND ON ABC-7 NEWS AT 11.

1/15- ABC7-24/7 7AM (:30)

WJLA 24-SEVEN NEWS IS ON YOUR SIDE - WITH A HEALTH ALERT ABOUT THE FLU. ONE OF THIS YEAR'S MOST ACTIVE STRAINS -- IS *NOT* COVERED BY THE FLU SHOT. HEALTH OFFICIALS ACROSS VIRGINIA ARE SEEING MORE CASES OF INFLUENZA B. CHILDREN ARE ESPECIALLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO THIS STRAIN. BUT -- THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULDN'T GET YOUR CHILD A FLU SHOT. IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO INFLUENZA B-- THERE'S STILL A 58-PERCENT CHANCE THAT THE VACCINE WILL PROTECT THEM.THE FLU HAS KILLED 32 CHILDREN THIS SEASON.

1/30 - ABC7-24/7 10AM (:34)

NOW TO THE MOUNTING SAFETY CONCERNS OVER CERTAIN BABY SLEEPERS AND ROCKERS. FOUR DIFFERENT MANUFACTURERS -- GRACO, DELTA ENTERPRISE, EVENFLO, AND SUMMER INFANT-- ARE RECALLING MORE THAN 166-*THOUSAND OF THEM DUE TO A SUFFOCATION RISK.*NO* INJURIES WERE REPORTED BUT THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISION SAYS INFANT FARALITIES WERE REPORTED IN SIMILAR SLEEP

PRODUCTS FROM OTHER MANUFACTORS. IN THOSE CASES, THE BABIES ROLLED FROM THEIR BACK TO THEIR STOMACH OR SIDE. 7 ON YOUR SIDE HAS THE EXACT MODEL INFORMATION ON OUR WEB SITE-- SO YOU CAN SEE WHICH ONES TO AVOID-- AND FIND OUT WHICH ONES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A REFUND.

2/6 - WJLA 11PM (:40)

A NEW LAWSUIT ACCUSES OFFICIALS AT DAMASCUS HIGH SCHOOL OF IGNORING HAZING ... AND SEXUAL *ASSAULT FOR *YEARS. THE ALLEGATIONS ARE LAID OUT IN THE 33-PAGE CIVIL LAWSUIT FILED TODAY. FIVE PLAYERS WERE CONVICTED OF SEXUALLY ASSAULTING THREE TEAMMATES IN THE FALL OF 2018. BUT THE VICTIMS' FAMILIES SAY THE ATTACK *COULD -- AND *SHOULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED. THE LAWSUIT NAMES DAMASCUS' FORMER PRINCIPAL, TWO FORMER COACHES, THE FORMER ATHLETIC DIRECTOR -- AND THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AS DEFENDANTS. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS *NOT COMMENTED ON THE SUIT.

2/12 -WJLA 6AM (:28)

DEPRESSION AMONG TEENS IN THE U.S. IS ON THE RISE. BUT A NEW STUDY FINDS LIGHT EXERCISE MAY HELP FIGHT IT. RESEARCHERS LOOKED AT CHILDREN WHO DID AN HOUR OF SIMPLE MOVEMENT EACH DAY-- BEGINNING AT AGE 12. AND THEY FOUND, THAT EXERCISE WAS LINKED TO AN AVERAGE 10-PERCENT REDUCTION IN DEPRESSION BY AGE 18. AND IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A LOT OF MOVEMENT -- RUNNING, BIKING, WALKING, DOING CHORES, PAINTING, OR EVEN JUST PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT WERE ALL STUDIED. THE STUDY IS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL, "LANCET PSYCHIATRY."

2/25- WJLA 4AM (:50)

STAYING IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY... MARYLAND'S NEW *32 BILLION DOLLAR* EDUCATION PLAN COULD SIGNIFICANTLY RAISE EDUCATION COSTS IN THAT COUNTY IN PARTICULAR. "THE KIRWAN PLAN" WOULD ESTABLISH UNIVERSAL PRE-K FOR LOWER INCOME FAMILIES AND RAISE TEACHER PAY. BUT UNDER THE

PLAN-- PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY WOULD SEE THE *BIGGEST* BILL OF ANY COUNTY IN THE STATE. SPENDING FOR EACH STUDENT WOULD RISE MORE THAN 7 THOUSAND DOLLARS BY THE END OF THE DECADE. AND *MANDATED SPENDING WOULD MULTIPLY BY MORE THAN 7! AS THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION OPENED, COUNTY EXECUTIVE 'ANGELA ALSOBROOKS' SAID HER BUDGET DIRECTOR WAS BLUNT. SOURCES TELL ABC SEVEN NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY TO ALTER OR DELAY THE STATEWIDE EDUCATION SPENDING PLAN.

3/16 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:28)

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE KEEPING YOU INFORMED AS PRECAUTIONS TAKE EFFECT TO STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS. ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE AREA ARE CLOSED TODAY. AND MANY ARE PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILIES TO PICK UP GRAB AND GO BREAKFASTS AND LUNCHES DURING SCHOOL DAYS. THAT INCLUDES BETWEEN EIGHT AM AND ONE P-M IN LOUDOUN COUNTY... ELEVEN A-M AND ONE P-M IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY... AND TEN A-M UNTIL TWO P-M IN D-C. GET THE TIMES AND PICK-UP LOCATIONS IN YOUR AREA ON THE FREE ABC7 NEWS APP AND AT WILA DOT COM.

3/27 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:20)

ALL DAY CARE PROVIDERS IN MARYLAND-- HAVE TO CLOSE BY *TONIGHT*. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS FOR A DAY CARE SERVING FAMILIES-- WHOSE PARENTS ARE CONSIDERED *ESSENTIAL* WORKERS BY THE STATE. MARYLAND HAS ESTABLISHED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS, AT NO COST TO PARENTS DEEMED "ESSENTIAL" EMPLOYEES. THAT INFORMATION IS ON OUR WEB SITE-- WJLA DOT COM.

ELDERLY & AGING

1/30- WJLA 5AM (:40)

D.C. IS TAKING ANOTHER BIG STEP TOWARD GOING GREEN. A NEW SOLAR POWER SYSTEM IS NOW INSTALLED IN ONE OF D.C.'S LAST LOW-INCOME COOPERATIVES. AND PEOPLE THERE ARE CELEBRATING. THE LIGHTVIEW COOPERATIVE ON GEORGIA AVENUE NORTHWEST HOUSES MOSTLY SENIORS. THERE ARE NOW SOLAR PANELS ON TOP OF ALL FIVE BUILDINGS. THE AVERAGE ELECTRICITY BILL FOR RESIDENTS IS NOW EXPECTED TO BE CUT IN HALF ... FROM AROUND 50 TO 25 DOLLARS A MONTH. THE PROJECT IS THE RESULT OF A HALF-MILLION DOLLAR PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP. D-C PUT UP 300-THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE COMPANY, NEW COLUMBIA SOLAR, RECEIVED THE REST FROM ITS INVESTORS.

2/12 - ABC7-24/7 7AM (:30)

CERTIFICATION OF MAINTENANCE-- ON *88* OLDER MODEL BOEING 737 JETS. A NEW REPORT FROM REUTERS NOW REVEALS -- SOUTHWEST OPERATED MORE THAT 150 FLIGHTS ON JETS-- WITHOUT CONFIRMATION THE REQUIRED MAINTENANCE HAD BEEN PERFORMED. THE FAA IS OF COURSE UNDER MICROSCOPE RIGHT NOW-- AFTER TWO CRASHES OVERSEAS ON NEWER BOEING 737 MAX JETS-- THAT KILLED 346 PEOPLE-- LEADING TO A GLOBAL GROUNDING.

2/18 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:15)

FIREFIGHTERS SAY A LACK OF WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS COULD HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN A DEADLY FIRE OVERNIGHT

THE FIRE STARTED INSIDE A DUPLEX IN NORTHEAST... AN ELDERLY WOMAN WAS PULLED FROM THE BURNING BUILDING. SHE LATER DIED FROM INJURIES. WE'RE TOLD THIS HOME HAD NO SMOKE DETECTORS.

2/24 - ABC7-24/7 8AM (:46)

SWITCHING GEARS -- TIME FOR SOME HOT TOPICS -- AND ONE MORE REASON TO CELEBRATE MORE CANDLES ON YOUR BIRTHDAY CAKE. A NEW SURVEY FROM RIVIERA TRAVEL FINDS ADULTS 55 AND OLD ARE FAR LESS STRESSED THAN MILLENNIALS. 69 PERCENT OF THOSE SURVEYED SAY GETTING OLDER FINALLY GIVES THEM THE TIME TO ENJOY HOBBIES AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. WHILE YOUNGER GENERATIONS ARE SO CONSUMED WITH CAREER AND MAKING A NAME FOR THEMSELVES.HERE'S A COUPLE MORE HIGHLIGHTS. 70 PERCENT OF OLDER ADULTS FEEL HAPPY AND CONTENT -- COMPARED TO JUST 59 PERCENT OF ADULTS UNDER 35.- 72 PERCENT ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THEIR AGE- 53 PERCENT HAVE NEVER FELT MORE CONFIDENT - AND 39 PERCENT HAVE SPENT MORE THAN 20 DAYS ON VACATION IN THE LAST YEAR -- COMPARED TO JUST 27 PERCENT OF PEOPLE UNDER 35. - FINALLY - 53 PERCENT SAY THEY FEEL MUCH YOUNGER THAN THEY ACTUALLY ARE.

3/6 - WJLA 4PM (:23)

SEVEN'S ON YOUR SIDE WITH SOME SIMPLE PRECAUTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP YOU FROM GETTING SICK. THOROUGHLY WASH YOUR HANDS FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS. STAY AT LEAST 3 FEET AWAY FROM ANYONE WHO IS COUGHING OR SNEEZING. AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH. STAY HOME IF YOU DON'T FEEL WELL. AND--IF YOU'RE ELDERLY-OR HAVE DIABETES OR HEART OR LUNG DISEASE-- THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION SUGGESTS--AVOIDING LARGE CROWDS.

3/14- WJLA 6PM (:23)

THIS IS WHAT WE KNOW RIGHT NOW: THE FIRST THREE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RESIDENTS TO TEST POSITIVE FOR THE CORONAVIRUS --HAVE FULLY RECOVERED... BUT THE STATE'S NUMBER OF CASES IS NOW UP TO 26. IN VIRGINIA -- THE

GOVERNOR NORTHAM SAYS HE'S WORKING TO GET MORE ACCESS TO TEST KITS... AND EQUIPMENT FOR HOSPITALS AND CLINICS. AND IN D-C... NO MORE THAN TEN ELDERLY PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED TO BE IN ONE GATHERING AT A TIME.

3/30 - WJLA 5PM (:45)

IN VIRGINIA-- WE'RE LEARNING MORE ABOUT TWO COVID-19 CASES AT THE "FALCONS LANDING" RETIREMENT COMMUNITY IN STERLING. AN ELDERLY RESIDENT DIED LAST FRIDAY. WE'RE TOLD ANOTHER RESIDENT IS STABLE AT A NEARBY HOSPITAL. CONTACT TRACING IS NOW UNDERWAY TO DETERMINE HOW THE RESIDENTS WERE EXPOSED -- AND WHO THEY MAY HAVE COME IN CONTACT WITH. THERE ARE MORE THAN ONE-THOUSAND CASES IN VIRGINIA -- AND 25-DEATHS STATEWIDE. TODAY -- GOVERNOR RALPH NORTHAM ISSUED A "STAY AT HOME ORDER" -- MANY OF THE CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS ALREADY PUT IN PLACE. RIGHT NOW -- THE ORDER IS IN EFFECT UNTIL JUNE 10TH.